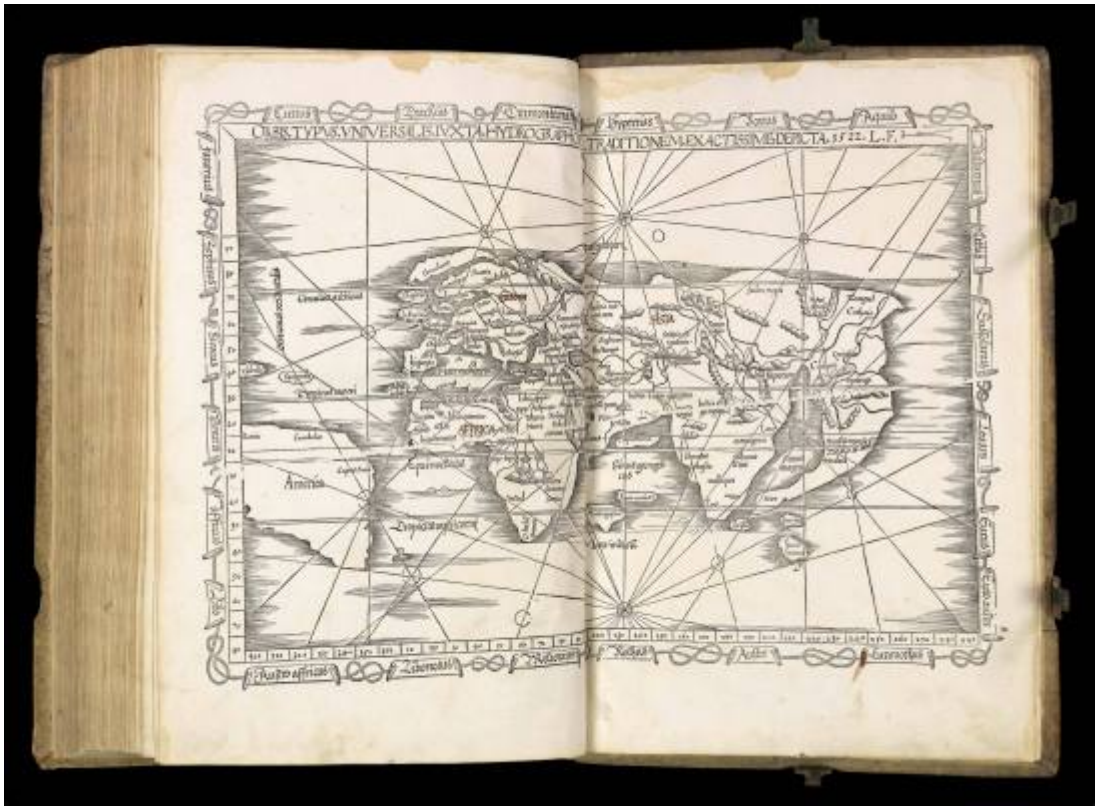


Folio atlas (406 by 265mm), title within ornamental woodcut border, and 50 numbered woodcut maps (27 double-page maps of the ancient world, 22 double-page maps of the modern world by Lorenz Fries, and one full-page map of Lotharingia on the verso of map 46), mounted on vellum guards, most maps with descriptive text on verso enclosed within elaborate woodcut borders (said to be the work of Hans Holbein and Urs Graf), woodcut diagrams in the text, contemporary blind-stamped pigskin over oak boards, metal clasps.

Collation: A-M(6), N(4), O(6), 50 numbered double-page woodcut maps a-e(6), f(4), P(6), Q(8) [Collophon].

Watermark: anchor within a circle.

FIRST MAP IN AN EDITION OF PTOLEMY TO NAME “AMERICA”

Geographicae enarrationis libri octo Bilibaldo Pirckeymhero interprete. Annotationes Joannis de Regio Monte in errores commissos a Jacobo Angelo in translatione sua.

Author
PTOLEMAEUS, Claudius

Publication date
1525

Publisher
Johannes Grieningerus, communibus Johannis Koberger impensis excudebat. [Imprint from colophon: recto of leaf Q8],

Publication place
Argentoragi,

Physical description
Folio atlas (406 by 265mm), title within ornamental woodcut border, and 50 numbered woodcut maps (27 double-page maps of the ancient world, 22 double-page maps of the modern world by Lorenz Fries, and one full-page map of Lotharingia on the verso of map 46), mounted on vellum guards, most maps with descriptive text on verso enclosed within elaborate woodcut borders (said to be the work of Hans Holbein and Urs Graf), woodcut diagrams in the text, contemporary blind-stamped pigskin over oak boards, metal clasps.

Collation: A-M(6), N(4), O(6), 50 numbered double-page woodcut maps a-e(6), f(4), P(6), Q(8) [Collophon].

Watermark: anchor within a circle.

Dimensions

Notes
Fourth Strassburg edition. The text was translated by Wilibald Pirckheimer, using the notes of Johannes Regiomontanus, perhaps under the editorship of Johann Huttich. The ornamental woodblock designs on the reverse of the maps are attributed to Hans Holbein and Urs Graf. Albrecht Dürer contributed the woodblock of the armillary sphere. The present edition is the second one printed by Johannes Grüninger. However, all maps are printed from the woodblocks of the first Grüninger edition of 1522.

The maps are all drawn on the trapezoid projection developed by the German cartographer Nicolaus Germanus (1420-1490) in 1460. 27 are drawn according to Ptolemaic theory, and a further 23 “modern” maps have been added, which incorporate contemporary knowledge.

The “modern” section was copied by Lorenz Fries, on a reduced format, from the maps prepared by Martin Waldseemüller for the 1513 Strassburg edition of Ptolemy, and accordingly contains updated maps of North America and the West Indies, Lorraine, Switzerland, Crete, North Africa, southern Africa, southern Asia and the world.

To that group Fries added two entirely new maps, which were the first separately printed maps of the regions they depict: one of southeast Asia and the East Indies, and one of China and Japan. He also added his own navigational map of the world.

The 50 woodcut maps, with the exception of ‘Quinta Asie Tabula’, are from the same blocks as those of the 1522 edition. Map 47 is a single page on the verso of map 46. Map 50, ‘Orbis typus universalis’, by Lorenz Fries, is the first map in a Ptolemy in which the name “America” is used. Maps 28, 34, 49, and 50 relate more or less to America. The account of the discoveries of Columbus and others is on the back of Map 28.

Bibliography
Mickwitz, Nordenskiöld, 2:208; Phillips 362; Sabin 66482.

Provenance
Provenance:

Otto Schäfer Stiftung, Schweinfurt, Germany, with his monogram on the rear paste-down endpaper.

Price:

Inventory reference: 11838

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